



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/046,724	01/17/2002	Dolors Sala	1875.0710001	2556
28393	7590	04/12/2007	EXAMINER	
STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.			PARK, JUNG H	
1100 NEW YORK AVE., N.W.			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
WASHINGTON, DC 20005			2616	
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE		MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE	
3 MONTHS		04/12/2007	PAPER	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/046,724	SALA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Jung Park	2616	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 January 2007.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-8, 10-18 and 20-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) 24-30 is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-8, 10-18 and 20-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.
2. Claims 1-8, 10-18, and 20-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chapman et al. (U.S. 6,438,123, "Chapman") in view of Cloonan et al. (US 2002/0065907, "Cloonan").

Regarding claim 1, Chapman discloses a method of reducing the bandwidth comprising:

- generating a full packet (*fig. 2*) to be transmitted via the communication medium (24 & 26 *fig. 1*);
- suppressing the full packet according to a descriptor table (*fig. 3*; *col. 4, ln. 29-44* where *it is inherent to have a table to change packet format from fig. 2 to fig. 3*) to create a suppressed packet (*fig. 3*), wherein the suppressed packet includes a descriptor (*tag 49 fig. 3 as an identifier; col. 4, ln. 60-67*) and wherein the suppressed packet requires less bandwidth than the full packet (*col. 4, ln. 41-44*);
- transmitting the suppressed packet via the communication medium (70 *fig. 5*); and
- expanding the suppressed packet to the full packet according to the descriptor table and the descriptor (*col. 4, ln. 60 - col. 5, ln. 7 where ...receiving end uses the index to identify ...header packets*).

Chapman does not explicitly disclose, "the descriptor table includes a parser specification sub-table, an expansion sub-table and a mask specification sub-table" in the amended claim. However, Cloonan discloses the limitations, "the descriptor table includes a parser specification sub-table, an expansion sub-table and a mask specification sub-table." (1207 fig.12, para.[0136] where rule tables for ... suppressed ... restored ...bit mask) and the function of each of the sub-tables is not defined in the claim. That is, each of the rules is stored at one of a plurality of sub-tables depending on its function and a system designer names it whatever he/she likes. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to utilize the sub-tables of the classifier table in order to include any kind of information for suppress function.

Regarding claim 12, Chapman does not explicitly mention, "descriptor table is initially set-up when the communication medium is configured, wherein a copy of the descriptor table is stored in the sender and the receiver, and where the sender copy and the receiver copy of the descriptor table maintain synchronization. However, it is inherent that descriptor table is initially set-up and is synchronized between CM and CMTS, otherwise, the suppressing (parsing) and restoring steps (col.4, ln.60-67) are inoperable.

Chapman does not explicitly disclose, "the descriptor table includes a parser specification sub-table, an expansion sub-table and a mask specification sub-table" in the amended claim. However, this claim is rejected for the same reasons and motivation set forth in the rejection of claim 1.

Regarding claims 2-6 and 13-17, Chapman further discloses that the communication medium is a cable network and/or Internet (col.1, ln.64-67), but silent on wireless network; satellite network, or optical network. At the time of the invention was made, it would have been an obvious matter of design choice to a person of ordinary skill in the art to transmit packets via one of the mediums since those networks have been used for transmitting packets.

Regarding claims 7 and 18, Chapman further discloses, the full packet type is one of a bandwidth request, a bandwidth grant, a transmission control protocol/Internet protocol acknowledgment message, a default message, a contention burst, a reserved burst, an immediate feedback message and a resolution algorithm message (col.5, ln.1-7 RTP header).

Regarding claim 8, Chapman further discloses, the step of transmitting the suppressed packet further includes allocating bandwidth for the suppressed packet (col.4, ln.29-40).

Regarding claims 10, 11, 22, and 23, Chapman lacks what Cloonan discloses, suppressing the entire header of the packet or suppressing a part of the entire header of the packet (para.[0136] where ...bit mask ...which bytes of the header that are suppressed). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to utilize the sub-tables of the descriptor to be standards compliant.

Regarding claims 20 and 21, Chapman further discloses, sender is a cable modem and the receiver is a CMTS or reverse (fig.1 downstream and upstream).

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 24-30 are allowed.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1 and 12 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Contact Information

Art Unit: 2616

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jung Park whose telephone number is 571-272-8565. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri during 6:15-3:45.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chau Nguyen can be reached on 571-272-3126. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JP
Jung Park
Patent Examiner


CHAU NGUYEN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600